

## REMARKS

The acceptance by the Examiner of the formal drawings filed March 14, 2007, is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1, 3, 5 to 7, 11, 14 to 19, and 21 to 32 are pending in the application. By this amendment, the limitations of claim 4 have been added to claim 1, and the limitations of claim 20 have been added to claim 11. Therefore, claims 4 and 20 have been canceled. In addition, claims 8 and 10 have been canceled as being substantially duplicates of other pending claims.

Claims 11 and 32 were objected to by the Examiner. The Examiner noted a typographical error in claim 11 and an omitted word in claim 32 and required correction. The claims have been amended as required, and Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out the errors.

Claims 23 to 26 and 29 to 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. Claims 1, 3 to 8, 10, 11, and 14 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,133,895 to Lee et al. Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,133,895 to Lee et al.

Each of these rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons that Inala et al. neither anticipates nor suggests claimed invention and the combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. fails to teach or otherwise suggest the claimed invention.

Attached hereto is the declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 of Dr. Jeremy Sussman, an expert in the computer sciences, who has reviewed the subject application and the patents to Inala et al. and Lee et al. and provides his expert opinion as to why the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Inala et al. or the combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. Dr. Sussman notes that a

key feature of the disclosed and claimed invention is collaboration spaces (referred to as CollabSpaces). Collaboration spaces are associated with one or more Web documents, topics and meta data. Dr. Sussman concludes that “The claims specify that they are related to CollabSpaces, which are wholly different from chat streams (suggested by Inala et al.) and are not suggested by the collaboration processes described by Lee et al., which are not given context from the web pages that the end-user is browsing.” In paragraph 6 of his declaration, Dr. Sussman states in part the following:

“... one of ordinary skill in the art having the qualifications set forth in paragraph 3 above would not consider it obvious to combine the teachings of the Inala et al. and Lee et al. patents. Inala et al. teaches that a web page can be the complete context for a chat. Lee et al. teaches that a web browser can be used as a mechanism for accessing and participating in collaboration processes. In Inala et al., the context of the collaboration is wholly contained in the web page. In Lee et al., the context is completely separate from the web page, and has its own context. Deciding to combine the context-finding mechanism of Inala et al. with the accessing mechanism of Lee et al. would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, nor would it result in the claimed invention. Even when presented with the possibility of combining the teachings of Inala et al. with those of Lee et al., the use of other data from the web page (or entire browsing session), as disclosed and claimed in the subject patent application, enhances the Examiner’s proposed combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. and separates that combination from any combination that could result from the combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. Furthermore, the idea of a CollabSpace, or a collaboration context which may span more than one web page but is related to and indexed by the browsing process is in no way suggested by either Inala et al. or Lee et al., nor the combination of the two. Further, neither of Inala et al. nor Lee et al. allow for mining of data that is part of the invention disclosed and claimed in the subject patent application.”

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents, topics and meta data”. Similarly, claim 11 has been amended to recite “means for associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents, topics and meta data”. Claim 23 has similar limitations pertaining to

collaboration spaces.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1, 3, 5 to 7, 11 to 19, and 21 to 32 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Hung-Yang Chang et al.

Serial No. 10/718,541

Filed November 24, 2003

For METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
COLLABORATIVE WEB BROWSING

Confirmation No. 1270

Group Art Unit 2179

Examiner Kim Lynn Dam

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF JEREMY SUSSMAN  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Jeremy Sussman declares as follows:

1. I received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, Cum Laude, from Princeton University in 1990, the degree of Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of California, San Diego, in 1994, and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science from University of California, San Diego, in 1999. After receiving my PhD., I have been employed by the International Business Machines Corporation at the Thomas J. Watson Research Center. From September 1999 to September 2006, I was a Research Staff Member and had the following responsibilities:

- *Rendezvous Project Team Lead.* Rendezvous is a telephony service that provides the end-user with a single number to access any and all audio-conferences as well as providing in-call visual feedback about the status

of the call (who is speaking, who is on mute, etc) that is integrated into the Lotus Sametime collaboration framework. At this time, there are over 27,000 end-users and the system is averaging over 1.5 million conferencing minutes a day. IBM is projecting a \$3M savings per annum from this work.

Responsibilities included leading the design, development and deployment of this system. Was one of the two initial inventors and brought this concept from invention to deployment.

- *Loops/Babble Project Member.* Loops/Babble is a blended-synchrony collaboration environment which combines aspects of instant messaging, IRC rooms and other computer mediated communication systems. Responsibilities included development of a J2EE compatible back-end, a translation mechanism between a Flash MX client and the server, and integration of this system into the Sametime collaboration framework. Also invented and helped develop additional functionality to this system, such as a presence-aware lobby system.
- *MDAT Project Member.* The Multi-Device Authoring Technology (MDAT) is a WebSphere Studio based toolset for building web applications and portlets for multiple pervasive devices. MDAT helps manage the complexity resulting from the proliferation of client devices by providing a high-level programming model and tool for building a single application that can be targeted to multiple devices: a semi-automatic customization process automates repetitive tasks, yet allows developers to specialize the application for specific devices. MDAT was developed jointly by Research and PvC, has been released as a part of the Everyplace Toolkit V5.0.1 GA on August 16, 2004. Responsibilities included design and development of the initial MDAT client, invention of the back-end translation and compilation mechanisms, and creation of the core XML markup language upon which MDAT was designed.

Since September 2006 to the present, I have held the title of Senior Software Architect with the following responsibilities:

- *Sametime Telephony Product Team Lead.* Sametime Telephony is a joint venture with Siemens that unites the collaborative tools of the Sametime product line with telephony. Responsibilities include leading the technology team, organizing the development and architecture of the product, serving as the main technical liaison with Siemens, producing planning and tracking documents, and developing the business partner eco-system around the product.

Attached to this declaration is a list of publications and patents in which I am a named author, co-author or co-inventor.

2. I have read and understand the above-identified patent application. Briefly described, the invention disclosed therein relates to collaborative web browsing, or more particularly, to the creation of collaborative working spaces which are related to and given context by web browsing sessions. The invention defines a concept called CollabSpace which is a set of members and a series of discussion threads, bundled together under a specific topic. These CollabSpaces can exist by themselves; however, the richness of the CollabSpaces concept is enhanced by linking them to specific web pages or web browsing sessions, as this would allow for discovery of CollabSpaces in the process of (typically) divergent web page browsing.

3. One of ordinary skill in the technical field of the invention would have studied and learned programming languages related to the web, such as JavaScript, HTML, CGI, or others, and also learned and practiced creating client-side programming programs using a programming language such as Java, C++, C, or others. While attainment of a degree in Computer Science is not necessary to be of ordinary skill in this field, skills

equivalent to this education must have been learned in the development and engineering of real computer software programs.

4. I have read and understand the Office Action mailed June 20, 2006. The Examiner has rejected claims 23 to 26 and 29 to 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. and claims 1, 3 to 8, 10, 11, and 14 to 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,133,895 to Lee et al.

5. I have read and understand U.S. Patent No. 6,442,590 to Inala et al. relied on by the Examiner. Briefly described, the Inala et al. patent relates to enhancing web browsing activities by having a service which can cross-reference visited web pages (most likely by URL) to one or more chat sessions that are given context by those web pages. Inala et al. fails to disclose the invention recited in claims 23 to 26 and 29 to 32. Specifically, claim 23 specifies that there be a classifier which uses the topic, content, and meta data to discover related CollabSpaces, and a server which uses this assembled data to manage CollabSpaces. Inala et al. rely solely on URL information, not the other elements mentioned in this claim, and does not manage CollabSpaces but rather chat streams, which are not as rich. Claim 24 builds on claim 23 to include mining data (that is, finding patterns not readily apparent in the surface data mentioned in claim 23. Claim 25 extends claim 23 to bring in other, more rich collaboration types to the CollabSpace. Claim 26 extends claim 23 to include authentication and authorization. Claim 29 describes how members of the CollabSpace are displayed and gathered by the system. Inala et al. teaches defining the members of the chat as those currently participating in the chat, whereas the claimed invention allows the membership of a CollabSpace to be defined outside the browsing session (leading to a much richer collaboration process). Claim 30 builds on claim 29

allowing for interaction outside of the browser. Claim 31 builds on claim 30 allowing for communication between other parts of the system and the browser. Claim 32 extends on claim 23 by defining different roles and permissions for the users (as opposed to Inala et al. which allows only for a single role, that of a person contributing to the chat stream). Therefore, in my opinion, the Examiner is in error in rejecting claims 23 to 26 and 29 to 32 as being anticipated by Inala et al. Inala et al. does not anticipate or suggest the claimed invention because Inala et al. is based on the presumption that the complete context for the chat session is contained in the page being visited. The leap from this assumption to one in which less obvious data, e.g., meta data, page content, other related activities in which the user is involved, etc., is not obvious, nor is it suggested by Inala et al. Furthermore, the idea that other collaborative processes besides a directed chat about this page is not suggested or anticipated by Inala et al.

6. I have read and understand U.S. Patent No. 7,133,895 to Lee et al. relied on by the Examiner. Briefly described, the Lee et al. patent relates to integrating basic collaboration systems (chat, voice over network, etc.) with a web browsing application. The web browser is used to log into and out of a collaboration system, and to present and manage the collaboration process. The combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. fail to suggest the claimed invention as recited in claims 1, 3 to 8, 10, 11, and 14 to 22. More particularly, whereas Inala et al. teaches using web pages to define chat streams and Lee et al. teach using a web browser to log into a collaboration server, the combination of these two references misses the concept of using the information contained within the page, or with the users' history, or with meta data in the web page, or any other nontrivial information to discover collaboration processes. The claims specify that they are related to CollabSpaces, which are wholly different from chat streams (suggested by Inala et al.) and are not



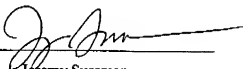
suggested by the collaboration processes described by Lee et al., which are not given context from the web pages that the end-user is browsing. Moreover, one of ordinary skill in the art having the qualifications set forth in paragraph 3 above would not consider it obvious to combine the teachings of the Inala et al. and Lee et al. patents. Inala et al. teaches that a web page can be the complete context for a chat. Lee et al. teaches that a web browser can be used as a mechanism for accessing and participating in collaboration processes. In Inala et al., the context of the collaboration is wholly contained in the web page. In Lee et al., the context is completely separate from the web page, and has its own context. Deciding to combine the context-finding mechanism of Inala et al. with the accessing mechanism of Lee et al. would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, nor would it result in the claimed invention. Even when presented with the possibility of combining the teachings of Inala et al. with those of Lee et al., the use of other data from the web page (or entire browsing session), as disclosed and claimed in the subject patent application, enhances the Examiner's proposed combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. and separates that combination from any combination that could result from the combination of Inala et al. and Lee et al. Furthermore, the idea of a CollabSpace, or a collaboration context which may span more than one web page but is related to and indexed by the browsing process is in no way suggested by either Inala et al. or Lee et al., nor the combination of the two. Further, neither of Inala et al. nor Lee et al. allow for mining of data that is part of the invention disclosed and claimed in the subject patent application.

7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C.

1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

9/12/2007

Date

  
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Jeremy Sussman

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Sussman, J. and Marzullo, K., "Comparing primary-backup and state machines for crash failures" (Short Abstract), *Fifteenth Annual ACM Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing (PODC 96)*, Philadelphia, PA, USA, May 1996, p. 90.

#### **Patents Issued**

U.S. Patent 6,865,517 for "Aggregation of Sensory Data for Distributed Decision Making", David Bantz, John Davis, Rafah Hosn, Nick Mitchell, Veronique Perret, Daby Sow, and Jeremy Sussman.

U.S. Patent 6,802,058 for "Method and apparatus for synchronized previewing user-interface appearance on multiple platforms, by Guruduth Banavar, Lawrence Bergman, Tatiana Kichaylo, and Jeremy Sussman.